

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-17

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E. O. 11652: N. A.

TAGS: PFOR, OAS

SUBJECT: OAS: DATE AND PLACE SET FOR FIRST SPECIAL
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

SUMMARY: OASGA SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFORM OF INTER-
AMERICAN SYSTEM WILL BEGIN MEETINGS JUNE 20 IN LIMA, WITH
DURATION, SUBSEQUENT SITES AND DATES TO BE DECIDED BY
COMMITTEE.

1. AT SESSIONS MAY 17 AND 18, OASGA PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
SCHEDULED INITIAL MEETINGS OF ASSEMBLY' S SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON REFORM OF THE SYSTEM FOR LIMA BEGINNING JUNE 20, 1973.

2. DURATION OF INITIAL MEETINGS AND SITE(S) AND DATES FOR
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SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS WILL BE DECIDED BY SPECIAL COMMITTEE

ITSELF ONCE IT HAS CONVENED. EXPECTATIONS ARE THAT LIMA PHASE WILL LAST ABOUT FOUR WEEKS, THAT SUBSEQUENT SESSION MAY BE HELD AT PAU IN WASHINGTON, AND THAT CONCLUDING PHASE WILL BE HELD AGAIN IN LIMA OR IN SOME OTHER LATAM CAPITAL IN OCTOBER- NOVEMBER.

3. MEANWHILE, SUBCOMMITTEE WORK ON DRAFT REGULATIONS NOW COMPLETED. KEY FEATURES INCLUDE:

(A) SINGLE PERMANENT CHAIRMAN AND TWO VICE CHAIRMEN
(INSTEAD OF ROTATIONAL PLAN PROPOSED BY CHILE);

(B) PUBLIC SESSIONS OF PLENARY AND PRINCIPAL SUB
COMMITTEES EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE DECIDED; AND

(C) TWO- THIRDS VOTE REQUIREMENT FOR SUBSTANTIVE
DECISIONS (RATHER THAN SIMPLE MAJORITY STRONGLY URGED BY
PERU).

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH VENEZUELA HAD ALSO OFFERED TO HOST
INITIAL MEETINGS, DRAWING OF LOTS AVOIDED WHEN VENEZUELA
WITHDREW FROM RUNNING AT LAST MOMENT. SINCE VENEZUELA
UNLIKELY TO WISH HOST SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS DURING ITS
ELECTION CAMPAIGN, WE VIEW THIS AS ADROIT MOVE TO ENHANCE
ITS INFLUENCE OVER CHOICE OF COMMITTEE' S PERMANENT
CHAIRMAN. RUSH

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